AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all prior listings and versions of claims in the application. The listing of claims below shows revisions with insertions indicated by underlining and deletions indicated by strikeouts and/or double bracketing.

Listing of Claims

1.   (**Currently Amended**) A custom computer acquisition method comprising:

a) causing the contents of a source computer to be surveyed;

b) from said surveying, gaining knowledge of the components of said source computer, said surveying performed by a tool operating on the source computer, said knowledge comprising an inventory of components and user settings and user preferences of the source computer;

c) acquiring upgrade knowledge of a plurality of upgrade products which at least contain an upgrade over one or more of the components of said source computer;

d) receiving an order for a new target computer from a customer having dominion over said source computer;

e) recommending to said customer[[,]] at least one upgrade product of a plurality of upgrade products to be installed on said target computer based upon the knowledge of said source computer components and the upgrade knowledge of said plurality of upgrade products, at least some of the plurality of upgrade products corresponding to one or more of the components of said source computer;

f) enabling said customer to choose at least one upgrade product of a plurality of upgrade products to be installed on said target computer;

g) migrating to said target computer[[,]] <u>at least some of components of the inventory of components of the source computer, and at least some of the user settings of the source computer, and at least some of the user preferences of the source computer</u> ~~the source computer components chosen by the customer to be migrated~~;

h) installing the chosen <u>at least one</u> upgrade product[[s]] on said target computer;

i) processing said order; and

j) following elements h) and i), causing a custom target computer to be delivered to said customer or said customer's agent.

2.   (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein said source computer components comprise a user state.

3.   (Original) The method of Claim 1 further comprising:

downloading a software tool from a remote location onto said source computer; and

carrying out elements a) through i) with the aid of said software tool.

4.   (Original) The method of Claim 3 wherein said software tool is an instrumentality under the dominion of a computer software and hardware vendor.

5.   (Original) The method of Claim 1 further comprising:

loading a software tool onto said source computer; and

carrying out elements a) through i) with the aid of said software tool;

wherein said software tool is an instrumentality under the dominion of a

computer software and hardware vendor, and wherein said upgrade products are

directly available from said vendor.

6.   (Original) The method of Claim 1 further comprising:

loading a software tool onto said source computer; and

carrying out elements a) through i) with the aid of said software tool;

wherein said software tool is an instrumentality under the dominion of a

computer software and hardware vendor, and wherein said upgrade products are

available via an Internet link to an instrumentality of a separate entity from said vendor.

7.   (Original) The method of Claim 6 further comprising:

said computer software and hardware vendor receives remuneration from said

separate entity when an upgrade product is received from said instrumentality of said

separate entity.

8.   (Original) The method of Claim 1 further comprising:

loading a software tool onto said source computer from a local storage medium

comprising said software tool and product upgrades; and

carrying out elements a) through i) with the aid of said software tool.

9.   (Canceled)

10.   (Original) The method of Claim 1 further comprising:

        activating at least one installed upgrade product via a telecommunication link.

11.   (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein said upgrade products comprise

software.

12.   (Canceled)

13-23. (Canceled)